



◀ Love the trees in fall — or in other seasons?
Nominate a Notable Tree! See p.3

BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

The Jordan Celebrates Its Opening

On October 25, four County Board members and BCA President Judah dal Cais were on hand to help AHC celebrate the ribbon-cutting for its new 4-story affordable rental apartment community (The Jordan) located at the corner of N. Wakefield Street and Wilson Boulevard.

The Jordan contains 90 committed affordable apartments. This represents a net gain of 66 units above the 24 units in the old Jordan Manor apartment complex (razed in 2009). AHC and developer JBG swapped parcels on either side of N. Wakefield Street as part of the Peck-Staples site redevelopment, which helped to make building The Jordan possible.

According to AHC Project Manager Curtis Adams, residents began moving into The Jordan in September. Of the 23 families who previously lived at Jordan Manor, 4 have returned to The Jordan. By the most recent count available, 66 of the 90 units already have been leased (to 125 adults with 85 children).



The newly-opened Jordan apartment community.

Most of the residents are working families earning approximately 50% to 60% of the area's median income (median household income for the D.C. metro area was \$103,500, for a family of four, in 2010). Just a few tenants hold Section 8 housing vouchers.

Approximately 80% of the units have two or three bedrooms, and the monthly rental ranges are as follows: 1-br. \$973-\$1,112; 2-br. \$1,076-\$1,315; 3-br. \$1,218-\$1,494.

Rent is based on income (there are no market-rate units available), and utilities are extra — however the federal government requires ▶▶3

NEXT MEETINGS, 11/16, 12/14

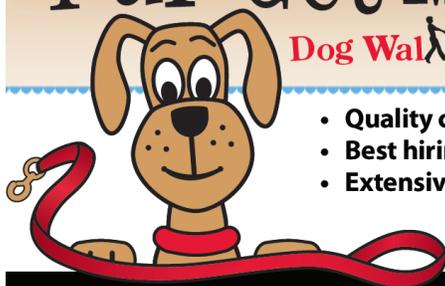
Join us for our next general membership meeting – 7:30 pm on Wednesday, November 16 at Arlington Traditional School. The Executive Board meeting will be held directly beforehand at 7:00 pm and is open to all paid BCA members. On the agenda for discussion and potential vote by the membership is the proposal by the Executive Board to reduce the frequency of general membership meetings per calendar year. The December meetings will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at the same location and times.

LAST MEETING, 10/26

The BCA Executive Board meeting began with approval of the August Executive Board meeting minutes, followed by a report from BCA President Judah dal Cais about his brief conversation on October 21 with representatives, Avis Black and Michelle Shelton, from Safeway's real estate arm. In their conversation, President dal Cais shared his belief that the BCA may be interested in having further discussions with them ▶▶2

Fur-Get Me Not

Dog Walking Pet Sitting



- Quality care since 2000
- Best hiring practices
- Extensive employee training

VOTED BEST BY
Northern Virginia &
Washingtonian Magazines

learn more at www.FurGetMeNot.com or call 703.933.1935

2011 BALLSTON MARKETS!

WATCH FOR US IN 2012!

ARTS & CRAFTS MARKET
10AM TILL 4PM APRIL 9, MAY 14, JUNE 11,
JULY 9, AUGUST 13, SEPTEMBER 10 & OCTOBER 8.

FARMERS MARKET
EVERY THURSDAY 3 TO 7PM
MAY 26 THROUGH OCTOBER 13

WELBURN
SQUARE

NORTH & NORTH
STUART 9TH STREET

ACROSS FROM THE
BALLSTON METRO
ON THE ORANGE LINE

about improving the Bluemont Safeway property. Any future conversations will include other members of the Board and/or Black and Shelton will be invited to a general meeting to discuss their ideas further.

Christina Alexander of the Arthritis Foundation kicked off the general meeting with a presentation about the upcoming Jingle Bell Run/Walk on December 3. (See related article on page 3.) This was followed by a presentation by Elizabeth McKeeby of Walsh Colucci and members of the firm working on the Goodyear Tire site plan (650 N. Glebe). In addition, Richard Viola of Arlington County Transportation Planning Program, presented on the N. Carlin Springs Bridge rehabilitation project for which the County has secured state funds.

Officers, representatives, delegates, and committees reported out on any developments that occurred since the previous meeting. BCA Vice President George Rovder proposed to the membership that we create a policy for how officers should interact with real estate developers. Separately, members suggested ways to improve Bluemont residents' awareness of issues relevant to them. President dal Cais invited participation by any and all members and Board members to implement suggestions.

Great ideas were circulated at the October meeting and we welcome yours as well. Feel free to email any of the BCA officers with your input.

[Note: Full minutes of BCA meetings will be posted to the BCA website once they have been approved by the general membership (for general membership meetings), or by the Executive Board (for Executive Board meetings).] ■

BLUEMONT BUSINESS BUZZ



Tucked away in the second story of a little gray house on the corner of Wilson Boulevard and N. Frederick Street, Covet is one of the most recent business additions to the heart of Bluemont. Drawn to the neighborhood by its retro spirit, friends Autumn Clayton and Sabrina Cabada jumped at the chance to start something new. The store grew out of their inspiration from the space itself. Covet, which opened in March 2010, has already received a slew of local attention: features in the first issue of *Arlington Magazine* and the November 2011 issue of the *Washingtonian*, as well as a nomination, for the second year in a row, in the "Best Boutique" category of the 2011 ABBIE Awards (Arlington's Best Business Awards).

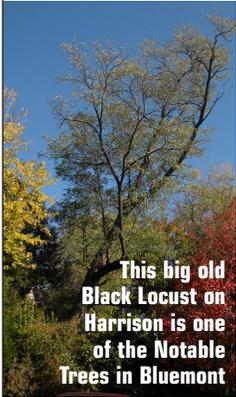
On a first visit to the shop, what you find behind the pink door is as much a surprise as a delight. Bold and bright colors dress the walls, a nice backdrop to the creative and unusual finds that Autumn — now sole owner — has for customers to discover. Several of the items she found while on annual buying trips to New York City, and many are from local artists. She generally buys only from vendors who make their own products or work directly with the artisans who are creating their designs. Jeweled peacock rings, handmade candles, and quirky note cards are just a small window to what Covet offers. It really is a magical boutique, with unique items perfect for any occasion — not that you need to be on a specific shopping mission to wander into the store. And even on your second visit, you would again be surprised and delighted, as Autumn gives way to her creative spirit and constantly rearranges the shop, coming up with new ways to display their products.

Autumn loves being a part of the community and offers many ways for customers and neighbors to connect with the store and their own creativity. Covet often holds cocktail parties, craft events, and trunk shows. The next event is a Laugh and Craft on November 20. Check out their blog for more details: www.covetarlington.com. Autumn also plans on having a couple of trunk shows with some local vendors over the holiday season. If you would like to support Covet and vote in this year's ABBIE Awards, visit this www.shoparlington.org. Voting ends November 16. ■

Get **YOUR** business listed
on our website when you
Advertise
with us!
Rates and details at
bluemontcivic.org/rates.pdf



Nominate Your Favorite Tree



This big old Black Locust on Harrison is one of the Notable Trees in Bluemont

Arlington recognizes its Notable Trees. These are trees that are really part of our community. Maybe they are quite large or a unique species for the area. They can be trees with a historical significance, or they may just be special to neighbors because everyone identifies with them. Although the "Notable Tree" designation does not give Arlington County any authority over trees

on private property, the trees may be included in future civic association and neighborhood walking tours. Look around and nominate a Notable Tree. Deadline for entries is December 1. To learn more and download a PDF of the Nomination Form, visit www.arlingtonva.us and search "notable trees." ■

I-66 Survey

I-66 is an important artery for anyone living in Arlington and its development has been a point of contention for decades. VDOT has a new survey to assess commuter usage and development preferences of the I-66 corridor inside the Beltway. Ensure your voice is heard and take the survey, a link to which can be found at bluemontcivic.org. It takes about 15 to 20 minutes to complete. If you fill out the survey soon enough, you may even be eligible for a free Starbucks gift card! And cyclists, please remember that the Custis Trail lies within the right-of-way for I-66. So watch for the related commuting questions and if you commute on I-66 by car or other vehicle, or by bike on the Custis Trail, be sure to identify yourself accordingly. BCA members strongly support improved conditions for cyclists. ■

Jingle Bell Run

Kick off the holiday season with the inaugural DC Jingle Bell Run/Walk® for Arthritis sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, Mid Atlantic Region. The event will be on Saturday, December 3. Participants may wear holiday themed costumes, tie jingle bells to their shoelaces, and run or walk a 5 kilometer route to celebrate the season while supporting the fight to conquer arthritis.

The Run/Walk will start at 8:00 am from the southern shelter of Bluemont Park at 325 N. Manchester Street. There is a special event for the little ones too.

For additional information visit jinglebellrunmetrodc.kintera.org, contact Christina Alexander at



Do you remember Bluemont in the late 1940s? Some residents do. We're talking about a time in history when many

secondary roads were newly paved, milk was delivered to your door, and much of Bluemont was covered in forestland. If you lived in Bluemont and wanted to get around using public transportation, the only means was the Arnold Bus Line, a private company owned by the Arnold family whose routes included a bus that ran up Wilson Boulevard to Rosslyn. There was an eastbound stop near the Federal Lock & Safe building and a westbound stop near Safeway. The trick — the schedule was never certain, so you might wait for an extended period of time to catch a bus.

And you thought WMATA had its challenges! On arrival to Rosslyn, riders could make their way into Washington, DC by catching a trolley car.

Thanks to Hedy and George Farah for contributing to this article.



It may not be perfect, but transit on Wilson has come a long way since the Arnold Bus Line.

▶ GOT A STORY TO SHARE?

If you have historical tales of life and goings on in Bluemont that you would like to share with your neighbors, please contact Carla dal Cais, Newsletter Editor, cecathey@gmail.com or 703-967-8458. They might make their way into this new "Bygone Bluemont" section of the newsletter. ■

Jordan Opens

from p. 1

a discount on monthly rent (\$75 for 1-br., \$105 for 2-br., and \$145 for 3-br.) to help offset that expense. Parking is also extra, and the building has 77 underground parking spaces.

AHC is very proud that The Jordan is an Earthcraft-certified building, with instant hot-water systems and fiber-insulated walls to help reduce energy use. There are nine ADA-accessible units, and the building's outdoor common area includes a sprayground for children set in an attractive park-like setting. Residents also may use the business center (complete with a computer, printer, and fax machine) and a library (geared to students and children). ■

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BCA Meetings-ATS 11/16

(Exec Board: 7pm; General 7:30)

Notable Tree Deadline 12/3
(see story, p.3)

Jingle Bell Run/Walk 12/3
(see story, p.3)

December Meetings 12/14

Please check our website for updates.

BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

bc@bluemontcivic.org

President

Judah dal Cais – 703-528-1551

president@bluemontcivic.org

First Vice President

George Rovder – georgerovder@hotmail.com

Second Vice President

Matt Fehling – matt.fehling@alumni.unc.edu

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Representative

Larry Smith – LrsML@aol.com

Alternate: Mark Haynes – haynes@concordiapower.us

Treasurer

Judy Collins – 703-276-0124/jc.swings@verizon.net

Secretary

Chitra Kumar – chitraku@gmail.com

Civic Federation Representatives

Robert Atkins, Terry Serie, Suzanne Sundburg, Sandra Munnell. Alternates: Sam Ferro, Ed Fendley, Dean Foster

BCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS & REPRESENTATIVES

Webmaster

Dave Leichtman – dave@leichtman.org

Newsletter Editor

Carla dal Cais – cecathey@gmail.com

Newsletter Design/Layout/Photos

Sam Ferro – sam@ferroplusferro.com

Newsletter Distribution

David Van Wagner – dpvanwagner@mindspring.com

Wilson Boulevard Safety Committee

Bob Waffle – rwaffle@comcast.net

Bluemont Village Center Working Group

Judah dal Cais – president@bluemontcivic.org

Ballston Partnership Representative

Talmdage Williams – ttwrec@aol.com

Metro Liaison

Henry McFarland – hmcFarland@hotmail.com

Emergency Preparedness Liaison

James Thorne – james.thorne7@verizon.net

Free listing on our website when you advertise with us! bluemontcivic.org/rates.pdf



Bluemont Civic Association

PO Box 5134

Arlington VA 22205

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD from p.3

1-800-365-3811 ext 4237; or email calexander@arthritis.org

Consider making a contribution by joining in this fun event, or by sponsoring a participant.

Backyard Hens In Arlington?

“Local food” could soon take on a new meaning. The Arlington Egg Project, started by a group of residents, is promoting conversations about the benefits of micro-flocks

of chickens. Their ultimate objective is revising county ordinances so neighborhood residents can keep small numbers of backyard hens while prohibiting roosters and ensuring secure, proper, and humane housing for hens. Proponents point out that backyard hens can reduce dependence of environmentally harmful industrial farming, provide nutritious food, and help kids learn where food comes from.

Backyard hens were once common in Arlington, but zoning decisions in the 1970s barred all but

the largest landowners from keeping hens. Now, with urban communities like Charlottesville, Baltimore, Seattle, Madison, and Portland embracing backyard hens, some says it’s time for Arlington to join their ranks in promoting urban agriculture. According to the Arlington Egg Project, nearly 1,000 Arlington residents have signed a petition to the County Board calling for the legalization of small-scale, sustainable backyard hen-keeping.

For more information visit ArlingtonEggProject.org. ■